

Bridges to Better Advocacy

A two-day conference for attorneys, paralegals and advocates who specialize in Assistive Technology (AT) Advocacy



Wednesday, October 21, 2009 (Optional)
Thursday, October 22, 2009
Friday, October 23, 2009

Hilton Garden Inn - Austin Downtown
500 North IH 35
Austin, Texas (In the heart of downtown Austin)

Optional Pre-Conference Session
Wednesday, October 21, 2009 – 9:00 to 5:00
Registration Fee of \$85 (includes lunch)

*A wealth of up-to-date information,
presented by national experts in many
of the key AT funding sources.*

Co-sponsored by:

Advocacy, Inc., Austin, Texas

*National Assistive Technology Advocacy
Project,*

A Project of Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc.,
Buffalo, NY

- ◆ **Preparation for a Medicaid Durable Medical Equipment Hearing** (a combination of lecture and hearing simulation)
Presenters: Steven Elliot, Esq., Advocacy, Inc., Austin, TX, Jennifer Giesen, Esq., Minnesota Disability Law Center, Diana Straube, Esq. and James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq., National AT Advocacy Project, Buffalo, N.Y.
- ◆ **Our Traditional, Two-day Conference**
Thursday-Friday, October 22-23, 2009
(registration fee schedule, registration form on back)
- ◆ **Medicaid Waivers and AT: Expanding Available Services without Giving Up Any Procedural Rights** - Jane Perkins, Esq. or Sarah Somers, National Health Law Program, Chapel Hill, NC
- ◆ **When Medicaid and the Americans with Disabilities Act Interacts** - Garth Corbett, Esq. & Steven Elliot, Esq., Advocacy, Inc., Texas and TBA
- ◆ **Anatomy of a Successful Medicare Local Coverage Determination (LCD) Challenge** – Marge Gustas, Staff Paralegal, NY PAAT Program & James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq., National AT Advocacy Project
- ◆ **Practical Legal Ethics: Serving Clients with Limited Cognitive or Communication Ability** – Diana M. Straube, Esq.; Ronald M. Hager, Esq., National Disability Rights Network (NDRN), Washington, D.C.
- ◆ **A Year in Review: A Look at New and Pending Federal Legislation as Relevant to Disability Advocacy** – Curt Decker, Esq., Executive Director, NDRN & Steven Mendelsohn, Esq., San Leandro, California
- ◆ **Asset Development Strategies for Funding AT: A Survey of Special Programs and Strategies** – Andrew Riggle, Public Policy Advocate, Disability Law Center, Utah; Steven Mendelsohn, Esq. & James R. Sheldon, Jr., Esq.
- ◆ **Using P&A Agency Resources to Advocate for Legislation or Policy Change: What is P&A Allowed to Do? Description of Utah P&A's Role in Individual Development Account Legislation** – Curt Decker, NDRN & Andrew Riggle, Disability Law Center, Utah
- ◆ **Preparing the Expert Witness for Testimony** – Peter Hoffman, Esq., Law Professor, Director, Blakely Advocacy Institute, University of Houston, (long-time NITA trainer)
- ◆ **Accessing AT for Infants and Toddlers: Funding Possibilities under IDEA Part C, Medicaid's EPSDT Program, and the Children's Health Insurance Program** - Diana Straube, Esq., National AT Advocacy Project & Ronald M. Hager, Esq., NDRN

Full descriptions and a schedule of individual sessions will appear on the
National AT Advocacy Project's website at www.nls.org/natmain

Continuing Legal Education Credits will be Available

REGISTRATION FORM – “Bridges to Better Advocacy”
October 21 - 23, 2009 • Austin, Texas

Name: _____

Title: _____ Agency: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Fax: () _____ Email: _____

Registration Fees Include: Conference Registration (one rate for Thursday-Friday, one rate for Wednesday pre-conference), Continental Breakfasts, Lunches, Thursday Dinner/Entertainment, and Handouts.

Hotel Rooms: You must make your own hotel reservations and arrange for payment. A block of rooms with a rate of \$145 (plus taxes; single/double) has been reserved for the conference. That rate is available for up to two nights before or after the conference arrival/departure dates. When making reservations, please call Hilton Garden Inn Central Reservations, toll free, at 877-782-9444 and refer to the “NE IGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES Bridges to Better Advocacy” conference room block or Group Code “BBA” (Call Jessie Garcia, Group Reservations at 800-684-7250 if there are questions), or make reservations using this link: <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/AUSGIGI-BBA-20091020/index.jhtml> **Please make hotel reservations by September 30, 2009.** After that date, rooms will be released for sale to the general public and rates cannot be guaranteed.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS:

1 – Conference Registration, Fees for Attendance

?	<u>Registration for “2-day Conference” (October 22-23)</u>	Amount	
•	Base registration fee	\$300	_____
	<u>Registration deadlines</u> – add amount according to date you send in registration		
•	Registration received by 8/12/2009	\$ 0	_____
•	Registration received by 9/16/2009	\$ 30	_____
•	Registration received by 10/13/2009	\$ 60	_____
•	Registration received after 10/13/2009	\$ 90	_____

(If registering after 10/13/2009, Call To Confirm Availability)

?	<u>Registration for “Optional Pre-Conference” (October 21)</u>	\$ 85	_____
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2 – Total to Be Paid

Total _____

Will pay this amount by 9/30/09 (current fiscal year) \$ _____

Will pay this amount after 10/1/09 (next fiscal year) \$ _____

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO NEIGHBORHOOD LEGAL SERVICES, INC.
Please call for special payment arrangements with your agency. Sorry, no credit card payments accepted.

Reasonable Accommodation Requests (DEADLINE: September 28, 2009): (please state accommodation request below)

Please Include Payment with Registration and Mail to:
Juli Cushman • Neighborhood Legal Services, Inc. • 237 Main Street, Ste. 400 • Buffalo NY 14203
Phone: (716) 847-0655 ext. 271 • Fax: (716) 847-0227 • Email: jcushman@nls.org